

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS AND SHEILA KUEHL

APRIL 14, 2015

## **Community Impact Arts Grants**

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission has been funding high quality arts programs for over 65 years, based on the issuance of grants through the traditional model of providing funds directly to arts-specific organizations. In some instances, it has been difficult for County residents in communities without established arts organizations to gain exposure to Arts Commission-funded programs.

The National Endowment for the Arts has committed \$50,000 as "seed" funding to create a new Community Impact Arts Grants program, which aims to break the traditional arts funding model by providing funds for arts projects in non-arts organizations, such as libraries, parks, juvenile facilities, and institutions of higher education.

Applicants to the Program would be able to request between \$1,000 and \$20,000 to fund a specific arts project, and the grantees would be required to provide a cash match.

During the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Recommended Budget development process,

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the Arts Commission requested County funding to create a new Community Impact Arts Grants program. We support establishing this program, and we would like to be certain that it effectively reaches Los Angeles County residents who do not typically receive exposure or have access to the arts, and that it truly has the impact that is envisioned.

## WE, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer to identify funding in the FY 2015-16 Final Changes Budget to create a three-year pilot project for the Community Impact Arts Grants program at the Arts Commission, to be funded with \$500,000 in one-time funds per year, for three years;
- 2) Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Arts Commission and the Auditor-Controller, to review existing Arts Commission grant programs, and to submit a report, within 60 days, that includes a three-year analysis of grants, projects, and grantees, including location and demographics; and
- 3) Direct the Executive Director of the Arts Commission to provide an annual report on the Community Impact Arts Grants pilot project, which should include information on grants, projects, and grantees, including location and demographics.

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